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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/717,089	11/19/2003	David G. Converse	C-2593	7010
75	90 03/31/2006		EXAMINER	
M. P. Williams			CANTELMO, GREGG	
210 Main Street Manchester, CT 06040			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1745	1745
			DATE MAILED: 02/21/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	<u> </u>	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Office Action Summany						
		10/717,089	CONVERSE ET AL.			
	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
		Gregg Cantelmo	1745			
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address			
WHIC - Exter after - If NO - Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE of the may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. It period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period were to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing and patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin rill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	N. nely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status						
1)🛛	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 Ja	nuary 2006.				
2a)⊠	This action is FINAL . 2b) ☐ This	This action is FINAL . 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.				
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is					
	closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Dispositi	on of Claims	•				
5)□ 6)⊠ 7)□	Claim(s) <u>6</u> is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdray Claim(s) is/are allowed. Claim(s) <u>6</u> is/are rejected. Claim(s) is/are objected to. Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or					
Applicati	on Papers					
	The specification is objected to by the Examine The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acceedable and any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	epted or b) objected to by the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See	e 37 CFR 1.85(a).			
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority u	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119	•				
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 						
		• .				
Attachmen	1(4)					
1) Notice 2) Notice 3) Inform	te of References Cited (PTO-892) te of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) or No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail D 5) Notice of Informal F 6) Other:				

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

- 1. In response to the amendment received January 26, 2006:
 - a. Claim 6 is pending;
 - b. The 102 rejection of Jung is withdrawn however the 103 prior art rejection of record stands.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. the claim recites increasing or decreasing the voltage <u>provided to</u> the electrical storage device in response to the load transient. However it appears that the specification only discloses increasing or decreasing the voltage <u>from</u> the electrical storage device in response to the load transient (see page 8, line 18 through page 9, line 9). Clarification is respectfully requested.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's statement with respect to claim 6 has been considered but is not persuasive.

Applicant's support on page 8, lines 9-17 is not persuasive since this disclosure at best would only support a voltage which is a multiple and not a reasonable teaching of the voltage being either a fraction or multiple voltage provided to the electrical storage device.

Again reviewing the specification appears to show support for the multiple or fractional voltage after line 17 and rather from lines 18 of page 8 through line 9 of page 9 all of which is directed to increasing or decreasing the voltage from the electrical storage device (i.e. bucking or boosting the electric storage device voltage in response to load transients).

Thus the rejection stands.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 5. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jung of record, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,737,762 (Koenig).

Jung discloses a fuel cell power plant and method of operating in Fig. 2 comprising a fuel cell stack 103 having electric power output lines, an electric storage element 101 associated with the stack, DC/DC converter 111 which is a means for providing a voltage to element 101 which is a fraction or multiple of the voltage between the output power lines. Controller 119 is a means for controlling the voltage provided to

element 101 (Figs .1 and 2 as applied to claim 4). The primary voltage source is the fuel cell system and when load transients occur, the electric storage element 101 accounts for such transients by supplying a voltage which is a fraction or multiple of the voltage between the power output lines to account for the load transients.

The presence of the DC-DC converter in Jung provides for the same system arrangement wherein, depending upon the operation conditions applied to the converter, the voltage to/from the electric storage device can readily be increased or decreased as needed dependent upon the load conditions and in the presence of any load transients.

Koenig discloses that a DC-DC converter coupled in series with a rechargeable electric storage device can provide increased or decreased voltages to the storage device in response to load transients.

The motivation for controlling the voltage to the electric storage device in response to load transients is that it improves the power management of the power system.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to modify the teachings of Jung by operating the DC-DC converter of Jung to supply fractional or multiple voltages to the electric storage device in response to load transients since it would have improved the power management of the system.

Response to Arguments

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6. Applicant's statement with respect to claim 6 has been considered but is not persuasive.

Jung provides for a DC-DC converter 111 which is a means that is capable for providing a voltage to element 101 which is a fraction or multiple of the voltage between the output power lines.

Koenig shows that DC-DC converters coupled in series with a rechargeable electric storage device can provide increased or decreased voltages to the storage device in response to load transients.

Considering that the electric storage device of Koenig is at a voltage different from an inverter (not shown) or load, it would have been obvious to provide multiple or fractional voltage to/from the electric storage device to match the voltage levels for each device operating at a different voltage and thus improve the power management of the system.

The combination of teachings thereby obviating the need to provide a fraction or multiple of the voltage from the electric storage device to account for load transients.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregg Cantelmo whose telephone number is 571-272-1283. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pat Ryan can be reached on 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ac

March 28, 2006

Gregg Cantelmo Primary Examiner Art Unit 1745